

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 225000

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PBOR, MX

REF: STATE 177150

SUBJECT: MEETING OF INTER-AGENCY COMMITTEE TO STUDY ILLEGAL
MIGRANTS FROM MEXICO

1. SUMMARY: THE INTER-AGENCY COMMITTEE ON ILLEGAL MEXICAN
MIGRATION INTO THE U.S. HELD ITS THIRD MEETING ON SEPTEMBER
18. AMONG TOPICS DISCUSSED WERE MEXICO'S CURRENT POSITION
ON A JOINT MEETING WITH THE U.S. COMMITTEE; THE COMMITTEE'S
REPORT TO THE PRESIDENT, DUE AT THE END OF SEPTEMBER;
THE SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS OF HR 8713, AS AMENDED; A
PROPOSAL TO BE SUBMITTED BY A CONSULTING FIRM FOR UPDATED
INFORMATION; A REVIEW OF DOMESTIC COUNCIL ACTIVITIES; A
PROPOSED AGENDA FOR EVENTUAL MEETING WITH THE MEXICAN
COMMISSION AND COMMITTEE'S POSITION REGARDING FUTURE
MEETING WITH ITS MEXICAN COUNTERPART. END SUMMARY.

2. THE EMBASSY'S RECENT TELEGRAMS MEXICO 8137, 8172, 7606
REPORTING ON THE ILLEGAL ALIENS WERE PARTICULARLY TIMELY
AND USEFUL FOR THIS MEETING. IN VIEW OF GOM RELUCTANCE
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TO MOVE AHEAD WITH A JOINT SESSION, THE COMMITTEE AGREED
THAT IT WOULD BE UNWISE TO PURSUE THE ISSUE AT THIS TIME.
IF AFTER A SIGNIFICANT TIME LAPSE THE GOM HAS STILL NOT
RESPONDED TO OUR NOTE CONCERNING OUR WILLINGNESS TO MEET

WITH THEM WE WILL RECONSIDER BEST METHOD OF FOLLOWING UP

ON THIS SITUATION. (THIS POSITION WAS OVERTAKEN BY
EVENTS REPORTED IN MEXICO'S 8227 AND 8224
TO WHICH WE WILL RESPOND SHORTLY.)

3. INTER-AGENCY GROUP WILL SUBMIT, AS REQUIRED, A
MEMORANDUM TO THE PRESIDENT BY SEPTEMBER 30 OUTLINING
ACTIONS WHICH HAVE TAKEN PLACE TO DATE BY THE INTER-AGENCY
COMMITTEE AND PROJECTS FOR EVENTUAL MEETINGS WITH THE
MEXICAN COMMISSION.

4. THE COMMITTEE REVIEWED THE SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS
OF H.R. 8713, THE RODINO QUOTE BILL TO AMEND THE IMMIGRA-
TION AND NATIONALITY ACT, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES UNQUOTE
WHICH WILL PROBABLY BE SUBMITTED TO THE SENATE BY MID-
OCTOBER. COPIES OF H.R. 8713 AND THE SECTION-BY-SECTION
ANALYSIS, AS AMENDED HAVE BEEN FORWARDED TO THE EMBASSY.

5. THE CONSULTING FIRM OF LINTON AND COMPANY WHICH IS
INVOLVED IN VARIOUS STUDIES ON THE SUBJECT OF ILLEGAL
IMMIGRATION HAS AGREED TO SUBMIT A PROPOSAL FOR A
DETAILED REPORT ON A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF PERTINENT MATERIAL
ON THIS SUBJECT AND A LIST OF KNOWN STUDIES ON ILLEGALS
WHICH HAVE BEEN COMPLETED, ARE IN THE PROCESS OF COMPLE-
TION OR PROPOSED. THE COMMITTEE WILL REVIEW LINTON'S
PROPOSAL TO DETERMINE ITS USEFULNESS.

6. A PROPOSED AGENDA FOR AN EVENTUAL MEETING WITH
THE MEXICANS WAS DISCUSSED AND WILL BE FURTHER REFINED
PRIOR TO JOINT SESSION OF THE U.S. AND MEXICAN GROUPS.
THE PROPOSED AGENDA WOULD TOUCH ON SUCH TOPICS AS AN
OVERALL REVIEW OF THE ILLEGAL ALIEN PROBLEM AS SEEN BY
THE U.S. AND MEXICAN SIDES; AN EXCHANGE OF AVAILABLE
INFORMATION ON THE SUBJECT BY BOTH SIDES; AND A DISCUS-
SION OF WHAT ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IS NEEDED TO PUT
THE PROBLEM IN PERSPECTIVE; A REVIEW OF PENDING U.S.
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LEGISLATION I.E., THE RODINO BILL; THE PROBLEM OF HUMANE
TREATMENT FOR ILLEGALS; GOM SUGGESTIONS ON PROPOSALS
THEY MAY HAVE TO HELP STEM THE FLOW OF ILLEGALS FROM
OR THROUGH MEXICO; U.S. SUGGESTIONS ON WHAT STEP WE MAY
TAKE TO ALLEVIATE THE PROBLEMS CAUSED BY ILLEGALS; AND
JOINT EFFORTS FOR PROJECTS IN WHICH THE U.S. AND MEXICANS
MAY WORK TOGETHER.

7. IN A DISCUSSION OF THE ROLE OF THE COMMITTEE IT WAS
AGREED THAT IT WAS NOT UP TO THIS GROUP TO RECOMMEND
DOMESTIC MEASURES SUCH AS INCREASED ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY,
OR RESTRICTIONS ON WELFARE OR EMPLOYMENT PROCEDURES WITH
REGARD TO ILLEGAL ALIENS. RATHER SUCH RECOMMENDATIONS

ARE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE DOMESTIC COUNCIL COMMITTEE. THE INTER-AGENCY GROUP VIEWS ITS ROLE AS THAT OF PUTTING THE PROBLEM INTO PERSPECTIVE IN DISCUSSIONS WITH THE MEXICANS, GIVING ADVICE TO THE DOMESTIC COUNCIL COMMITTEE WITH REGARD TO THE POTENTIAL BILATERAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED RESTRICTIVE MEASURES, AND INTERPRETING TO THE MEXICANS MEASURES THAT ARE BEING CONSIDERED AND WHY THEY ARE BELIEVED NECESSARY. ADDITIONALLY, THE COMMITTEE WILL WISH TO DISCUSS WITH THE MEXICANS, AT SOME POINT, POSSIBLE COOPERATIVE MEASURES WE MIGHT TAKE TO HELP ALLEVIATE THE PROBLEM (SUCH AS SOME MEASURE OF COOPERATION IN MEXICO'S DEVELOPMENT PLANS.)

8. THE INTER-AGENCY COMMITTEE PLANS TO HOLD ITS NEXT MEETING PRIOR TO GETTING TOGETHER WITH THE MEXICAN COMMISSION, AND WILL OF COURSE WISH TO DISCUSS OUR POSITIONS AS THEY ARE DEVELOPED WITH THE EMBASSY PRIOR TO MEETING WITH THE MEXICANS.

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